

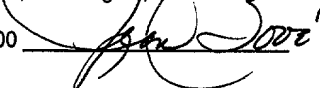
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Arnout Imhof et al.) Examiner: Paul Marcantoni
Serial No. :) Group Art Unit: 1755
Filed : December 21, 2000)
For : METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION)
OF MACROPOROUS CERAMICS)
Docket No. : 1279-237/09804152)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Date: December ²²21, 2000 

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, under CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS please substitute the following new paragraph for the existing paragraph:

—This application claims an invention disclosed in U. S. Application Serial No. 09/139,783, filed August 25, 1998 which claimed priority from Provisional Application Serial No. 60/056,805, filed August 25, 1997.--

Page 4, line 4, change "0.05 Mn" to -- 0.05 μm --.

Page 4, line 17, change "distributes" to -- distribution --.

Page 19, line 14, change "have" to -- has --.

Page 22, line 16, change "high" to -- higher --.

Page 25, line 11, after "refinement can", add -- be --.

Page 25, line 17, change "to respectively. titanium" to -- to, respectively, titanium --.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add the following new claims:

—20. (New) A macroporous ceramic having micropores of substantially uniform diameter uniformly dispersed therein.

—21. (New) The macroporous ceramic of claim 20 in which said pores are in the range of 0.5 μm to 5 μm micrometers.

—22. (New) The macroporous ceramic of claim 20 in which the ceramic is a metal oxide.

—23. (New) The macroporous ceramic of claim 20 in which said metal oxide is selected from titanium dioxide, zirconium dioxide and silicon dioxide.

REMARKS

The claims are identical to the non-elected prior claims 16 through 19 which were canceled by the Examiner's amendment of November 2, 2000 in the prior application.

A divisional application directed to those claims is attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Berliner', is written over a horizontal line.

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